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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Peter MADDENS (Belgium)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1995, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fiftieth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 41st and 44th meetings, on 17 and 21 December 1995. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/50/SR.41 and 44).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General (A/50/651 and Add.1 and 2) and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/50/814).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/50/L.25

4. At the 44th meeting, on 21 December 1995, the representative of Portugal introduced draft resolution A/C.5/50/L.25 entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission".

5. At the 44th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/50/L.25 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 626 (1988) of 20 December 1988, by which the Council established the United Nations Angola Verification Mission, Council resolution 696 (1991) of 30 May 1991, in which the Council decided to entrust a new mandate to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (thenceforth called the United Nations Angola Verification Mission II), Council resolution 976 (1995) of 8 February 1995, by which the Council authorized the establishment of a peace-keeping operation (thenceforth called the United Nations Angola Verification Mission III), and Council resolution 1008 (1995) of 7 August 1995, in which the Council extended the mandate of the Verification Mission until 8 February 1996,

Recalling its resolution 43/231 of 16 February 1989 on the financing of the Verification Mission, and its subsequent resolutions and decisions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 49/227 B of 20 July 1995,

Reaffirming that the costs of the Verification Mission are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Verification Mission, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

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1/ A/50/651 and Add.1 and 2.

2/ A/50/814.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Verification Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Verification Mission on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States,

1. Takes note of the status of contributions to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission as at 19 December 1995, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 38,878,476 United States dollars, representing 10 per cent of the total assessed contributions from the inception of the Verification Mission to the period ending 31 December 1995, notes that some 21 per cent of the membership has paid its assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, particularly those in arrears, to ensure the payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. Expresses concern about the financial situation with regard to peace-keeping activities, particularly as regards the reimbursement of troop contributors, notably those troop-contributing Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, which bear an additional burden, owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

3. Urges all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure the payment of their assessed contributions to the Verification Mission promptly and in full;

4. Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 2/

5. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Verification Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

6. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Angola Verification Mission the additional amount of 34,861,497 dollars gross (36,216,158 dollars net) for the financing of the Verification Mission for the period from 9 February to 31 December 1995, in addition to the appropriation of 150,000,000 dollars gross (148,000,000 dollars net) and the commitment authority of 65,912,903 dollars gross (63,067,742 dollars net) already apportioned under the terms of Assembly resolution 49/227 B;

7. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, and taking into account the amounts already apportioned, as provided for in paragraph 6 above, to apportion the additional amount of 34,861,497 dollars gross (36,216,158 dollars net) for the period from 9 February to 31 December 1995 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991, 46/198 A of 20 December 1991 and 47/218 A of 23 December 1992 and its decision 48/472 A of

23 December 1993 and its decision of 23 December 1995, 3/ and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1995;

8. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, shall take into consideration the decrease in their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,364,661 dollars approved for the Verification Mission for the period from 9 February to 31 December 1995, inclusive;

9. Decides that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against the apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 7 above, their respective share in the unencumbered balance of 537,900 dollars gross (502,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 October 1994 to 8 February 1995;

10. Decides also that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Verification Mission, their share of the unencumbered balance of 537,900 dollars gross (502,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 October 1994 to 8 February 1995 shall be set off against their outstanding obligations;

11. Decides further to appropriate to the Special Account the amount of 36,698,400 dollars gross (36,049,700 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Verification Mission for the period from 1 January to 8 February 1996;

12. Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 36,698,400 dollars gross (36,049,700 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 8 February 1996 among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Assembly resolution 43/232, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolutions 44/192 B, 45/269, 46/198 A and 47/218 A and its decision 48/472 A, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 1996;

13. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 648,700 dollars approved for the Verification Mission for the period from 1 January to 8 February 1996, inclusive;

14. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the maintenance of the Verification Mission at a rate not to exceed 28,229,100 dollars gross (27,730,100 dollars net) per month until 30 June 1996 and to assess the amount of 76,218,600 dollars gross (74,871,300 dollars net) for the period from 9 February to 30 April 1996 on Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Verification Mission beyond 8 February 1996;

3/ A/50/PV.100.

15. Notes with appreciation the voluntary contributions made by Germany, South Africa, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and invites voluntary contributions to the Verification Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991;

16. Decides to keep the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission" under review during its fiftieth session.